



THE DE LA SALLE *Dispatch*

20 April 2007

Upcoming Events

The De La Salle School Board of Trustees Planning Meeting
Saturday – 21 April 2007 – 9 AM to 1 PM

Welcome Breakfast
Thursday – 26 April 2007 – 7:30 to 8:45 AM

Tidings From Brother Thomas

Vocabulary is one of the core educational values stressed at The De La Salle School through English language arts, “Word of the Week,” dedicated silent reading times, etc. Over the course of this academic year (our first WOTW!), I have quoted several *NY Times* articles with WsOTW in them: novice, amiable, copius, cardiac, interrogation, sinister, pugnacious. We challenge also our students to find WsOTW in their own reading and when they do, they receive a reward. Sixth grader Alex Traconis was sure he had found one in a recent newspaper article -- xenophobia. His discovery led to our dictionary etymology lesson and the promise from me that it would indeed be an upcoming WOTW. Oh, the power of words!

WORD OF THE WEEK
inundate – *to cover with a flood* (18 April)

Students and Teachers Heading Into the Final Stretch

Easter recess is over, the fourth quarter is under way, and The De La Salle students and staff are striving ahead for a strong finish to the year. With renewed emphasis on academic pursuits, our on-going reading contest, Mock Trial preparation, reminders about appropriate (and inappropriate) behavior in school – there is still much to do before the end of the school year.

In a hallway conversation, seventh-grader Luis shared these thoughts on his new work-ethic. “I did a lot of thinking during the vacation and decided I wanted to do really well this fourth quarter. I want to put in more effort.” (He volunteered to be a reader for today’s 12:10 parish mass, he will be presenting the Mock Trial closing argument, and he was named *Writer of the Week* for his poem incorporating the words pure, circle, and life.) He concluded by saying, “I don’t want to sink into the past. I want to use what I’ve learned and build on that.”

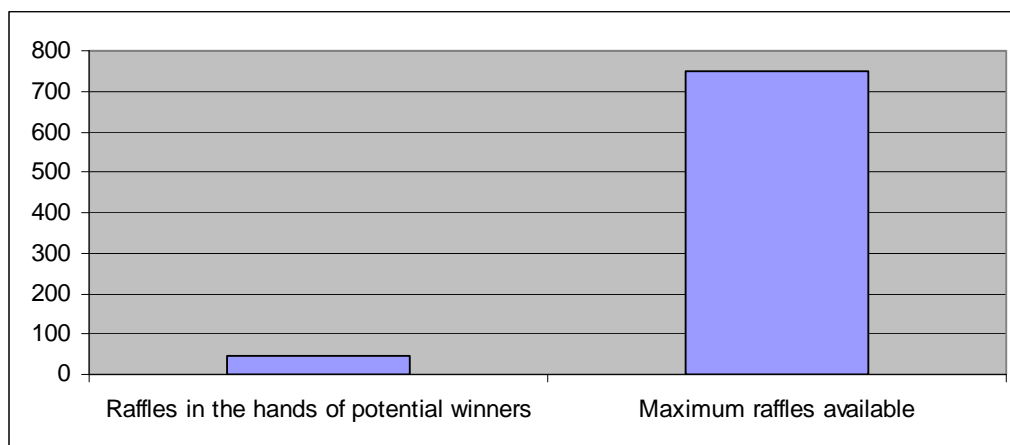
Discussing this student’s turnaround, Principal Petruccio commented, “I think it began when we had him work with our volunteer tutor, Marie Roberts, in social studies. She gave him the confidence he needed to excel!”

Twenty-four Steps to “Gentleman of the Week”

7. Encourage
8. Compliment

2007 Spring Gala Raffle Sales Update

Help us reach our goal of 750 raffle tickets sold! Tickets (\$100 each or seven for \$500) are included in the 2007 Spring Gala invitation package or by calling or writing Abbie at 516-379-8660 or ahattauer49@yahoo.com. There are five cash prizes and the **first prize is \$10,000!** (Drawing at the Gala on Friday, 11 May 2007 – winner need not be present to win.) **Raffle tickets sold to date: 130. Are you holding a winner yet?**



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